

7th January 2022

FRIDAY NEWS

A nurturing family, learning together



Message from Mr Hiley

Welcome back after the Christmas Holidays. I hope that everyone managed to have a wonderful Christmas and would like to wish all readers a very Happy New Year.

I would like to also welcome our new families to our school community whose children have, this term, started their educational journey and joined our wonderful Nursery provision. We hope that everyone has already settled into school routines and quickly settled into class.

Unfortunately, over the festive season, the infection rate of the new Omicron variant of Covid has quite literally taken off with confirmed cases in the local community and nationally significantly rising on a daily basis.

Earlier this week I sent out information in the form of an FAQ (frequently asked questions) relating to Covid and its impact on School. Summarising, as a school we would strongly encourage parents/carers to test their children for Covid, irrespective of whether any symptoms of infection are present at least twice per week. For those parents who may be concerned about swabbing children and the discomfort of self-testing, FlowFlex kits are now available. Swabs from these kits need only be taken from the nasal passages. Useful information about carrying out routine tests on children can be found at :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xaw8DsF2Igc>

If your child shows any one or more symptoms of Covid (headache, sickness, sore throat, fatigue, cold-like symptoms) then please keep your child at home and follow isolation rules. Please ensure that a lateral flow test is undertaken. Confirmatory PCR tests are no longer necessary. If a lateral flow test result is positive, your child will need to remain at home for at least seven days. On day 6 and day 7 following a positive test, further lateral flow tests should be undertaken (these tests should be taken 24 hours apart). If results from these tests are negative then and only then can your child return to school. If the test is still showing as positive then your child should continue to fulfil ten days of isolation. Further details and more information can be found on the Frequently asked Questions that have been sent home. For a paper copy please contact Sally in the School Office.

Again, whilst the virus is so prevalent amongst communities we would ask that parents/carers continue

to wear face coverings when both dropping off and picking up children from school. Thank you.

As previously reported in the Friday News, Mrs Susan Richardson and Miss Hannah Wilson have now joined the team of staff at Bentham C P School. Mrs Richardson is teaching children in Nursery whilst Miss Wilson is teaching in Class 2. I am sure everyone will join me in extending a warm welcome to both new members of staff.

By way of a reminder, if your child is currently in Nursery and due to start full-time school in September 2022 (Reception), then you need to apply for a place by no later than 15th January 2022. Please remember that even if you have a sibling that already attends school, or if you are 'in catchment' you still need to apply for a place in Reception. For more information please contact NYCC Admissions on 01609 533679 or visit <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/school-admissions>

Finally, as is always the case, can I please emphasise to parents/carers that if they have any concerns about any aspect of school, no matter how big or small then please either contact myself or your child's class teacher. Classes have their own e-mail addresses that teaching staff access on a daily basis, as follows :

nursery@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk

class1@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk

class2@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk

class3@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk

class4@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk

class5@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk

Any general queries you may have, or any questions about Parentpay etc can be directed to the school office, admin@bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk.

Once again, thanking everyone in anticipation of their continued support. Hopefully the Spring Term will not be as challenging as the previous Autumn Term, but only time will tell!

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr T Hiley

Interim Headteacher

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Coach Mark Gunn : Multi Sports Camp and Activity Day

On Tuesday 4th January 2022 Coach Mark Gunn held a Multi-Sports Camp and Activity Day here at the school. Coach Gunn wanted to pass on his sincere thanks to both children and parents for supporting this event. Children all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Coach Gunn will hopefully be organising some more events to take place during the Spring Half Term and Easter. More information as soon as we receive the same.

Please see below for some photographs of the day.....

Heinz Day Menu – Celebrating 153 years! On Friday 21st we will be having a celebratory Heinz Day Menu! All children in all classes are invited to take part. Meals can be ordered in the morning during registration. This menu will replace those choices previously advertised (battered fish/roast vegetable roll).

Sausage and Bean Casserole with Dumplings

Cheesy Beanz Parcel (v)

Potato Wedges

Broccoli/Sweetcorn

Jam Sponge and Custard

Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt

Meals are FREE of charge for children in Reception, Years 1 and 2. £2.55 per meal for children in years 3,4,5 and 6 and £2.10 per meal for children in Nursery. Meals are also FREE of charge for those children in receipt of Free School Meals. Payment should be made via Parentpay.

Car Parking

Can we remind parents about using the school's car park safely. Please do not double park, block other cars in, park in the gateway or abandon vehicles. Perhaps consider walking to school, or alternatively, if distance is the issue, driving only part of the journey to school, parking up in a safe and legal place and walking the remainder of the journey to school. Likewise, please do not block driveways or highways, please consider that these actions might have a significant impact should an emergency vehicle need access.

Return of Baby and Toddler Group

We are absolutely delighted to confirm that the Friends of Bentham School are once again offering a '@Covid secure' Baby and Toddler Group session, every Friday, term-time only in the School Hall. The next session will be on Friday 14th January 2022 from 9.30am until 11.00am.

If you have a pre-school aged child, then please do pop along to this friendly informal group – we look forward to seeing you!

PE Days

Nursery: Thursday (AM)

Class 1 : Tuesday/Friday : PM (including Nursery children who stay for afternoon sessions)

Class 2 : Tuesday/Wednesday

Class 3 : Monday/Tuesday

Class 4 : Monday/Tuesday

Class 5 : Monday/Tuesday

Dates for your Diary

Monday 10th January 2022

Pasta Bolognaise

Loaded Potato Skins

Jacket Potato

Tuesday 11th January 2022

Chicken and Vegetable Pie

Veggie Pasta in Tomato Sauce

Wednesday 12th January 2022

Roast Pork

Red Dragon Pie

Jacket Potato

Thursday 13th January 2022

Crunchy Breaded Salmon

Leek and Cheese Roll

Jacket Potato

Friday 14th January 2022

Cheese and Tomato Pizza

Vegetable Wrap with Rice

Jacket Potato

9.30am – 11.00am Baby and Toddler Group in the School Hall

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Apply for a child's Reception Place by 15th January 2022

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